

Easter Sunrise Service in City Park Starts Solemn Festival Here

IMPRESSIVE RITES BEGIN AT 5:30 A. M.

As the dawn glids the surrounding oil derricks, changing their drab tinges to spires of light, and the surrounding spring foliage emerges from shadows of night, next Sunday morning will be the first Easter sunrise service ever held in the city park.

Torrance residents who desire to begin the Easter festival with the dawn's early light need not travel many miles, impeded by traffic and parking space trouble to participate in a sunrise devotional this year. Instead, they may set their alarm clocks for 5 o'clock, drive a few blocks to the park on Arlington avenue and be among the congregation assembled before the band shell in time to witness the opening of the service at 5:30 a. m.

The sunrise rites are being sponsored by the Torrance Ministerial Union with Rev. E. W. Matz presiding, Leonard Babcock is music director and the principal address, "The Empty Tomb," will be given by Rev. C. Miles Northrup.

Pantomime Old Story
A trumpet solo, "Dawn," by Billie Kelley will open the service. An orchestra, composed of Leland Pisel, vibranary; Mrs. Gladys Pletschke and Marie Peer, marimbos; Doris Dillard, flutes; Gene Yoder, piano, and a trumpet, will play several selections.

While Rev. F. T. Porter reads the beloved Easter Scripture message, six Torrance young people will pantomime the age-old story. They are Edwin Smith and Edwin Rowell, as guards; Georgia Billingsley and Carene Decker, the Marys, and Jackie Gibson and Marcella Smith, angels.

Following a prayer by Rev. Harry G. Banks, a duet number will be sung by Scott R. Ludlow and Leonard Babcock. After Rev. Northrup's Easter message, Rev. E. W. Matz will give the benediction and the service will conclude.

Special Easter rites have been planned in all churches morning and evening and all pastors extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend.

WALTERIANS BID TO SURVIVE SERVICE

The Walteria Full Gospel church will hold the seventh annual Easter sunrise service Sunday on top of the large hill overlooking Walteria, beginning at 5 a. m., according to Rev. Charles Shook, pastor. Rev. L. B. Reynolds of Hermosa Beach will be the principal speaker and there will be special singing and musical numbers. Oscar Beecham will play a trumpet solo to start the service at dawn.

A torch will burn all night on the hilltop cross as a beacon to the early morning worshippers. All residents of the community are cordially invited to attend.

PALOS VERDES SUNRISE SERVICE SCHEDULED

Another nearby Easter sunrise service is arranged for the top of the hill above La Venta Inn in the Palos Verdes Estates, beginning with a pilgrimage to that vantage point overlooking the sea at 5:30 o'clock. This will be accompanied by the reading of passages from the Prophecy of Isaiah by all pilgrims.

BOY SCOUT MEETINGS

Two Boy Scout meetings are scheduled for Torrance this month. The first will be a district commissioners' party on April 17 and the second will be a Cub Leaders' gathering the following day, April 18.

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Holy Week Services Arranged

Observance of the Lord's Supper will be a union church event tonight at the Central Evangelical church, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. The Torrance Ministerial Union, which is sponsoring this devotional, will also hold a Good Friday service tomorrow evening in the Civic Auditorium at 7:30 o'clock.

Rev. C. M. Northrup of the Baptist church will preach the communion sermon tonight and Rev. E. W. Matz of the Central Evangelical church will preside. Rev. Frank T. Porter of the Christian church, Rev. Harry G. Banks of the Methodist church and Rev. Ben Lingenfelter of the Men's Bible class will minister in distribution of sacred emblems.

All residents of the city and vicinity are cordially invited to attend.

The Good Friday service will consist of the presentation of the sacred cantata, "The Seven Last Words of Christ" by the Cathedral Chorus of Los Angeles under the direction of Carl Robertson at the Civic Auditorium. George S. Luddecke and Miss Virginia Sawyer will be the soloists. There will be no admission charges but a free will offering will be received.

MWD Water 110 Miles Closer Here

Sweeping across vast desert stretches in the nearly completed Metropolitan Aqueduct, Colorado River water today is scheduled to reach a point 110 miles closer to the coastal plain of Southern California.

J. M. Gaylord, chief electrical engineer of the Water District, reported that testing of the Iron Mountain pumping plant on the Metropolitan Aqueduct was started yesterday, and that the aqueduct water had been started on another lap of its 392-mile journey from the Colorado River to Torrance and the 12 other Southern California cities that comprise the Metropolitan Water District.

The Iron Mountain plant, located in the desert approximately 220 miles east of Los Angeles, is the third of the five huge pumping plants which will lift the Metropolitan Aqueduct water to a total height of 1617 feet over mountain ranges that lie between the Colorado river and the coastal plain of Southern California.

Aqueduct water is lifted 144 feet by the Iron Mountain plant, and at the top of this third step the Colorado has been lifted a total height of 738 feet since it left the river's river bank at Parker Dam. From the top of the Iron Mountain pump lift, Metropolitan Aqueduct water today is flowing westward through 40 miles of tunnels, conduits, and canals to the Eagle Mountain pumping plant, which is 110 miles west of the Colorado river.

26 Men Seized in Gambling Raids Pay Total of \$340 in Fines Here



IN PLAYERS' FIRST OPUS... Here is a scene from the initial production of the Torrance Community Players—"Meet the Duchesses," which will be staged at the Civic Auditorium next Thursday night, April 13. Members of the cast of this three-act comedy are, left to right: Jeannette Michelson, Dale Howe, Sally Armstrong, Don Mitchell, Lucille Stroh, Director William Pariss, Waunita Davidson and Louis Murray. Seated left to right are Karnee Holley and Virginia McNally with little Bonnie Jean Edison in front.

Trees to Line Figueroa Unit

A total of 370 eucalyptus trees will line the extension of Figueroa street from Lomita boulevard to Wilmington-San Pedro road, according to an agreement reached this week between the Los Angeles city bureau of engineering and the state highway department and approved by the Los Angeles city park commission.

The highway extension, final link to bring Figueroa directly to the harbor area, is approximately one-half completed and will be opened in about 90 days.

Local Woman and Daughter Crash Victims

Mrs. Marcella Clays, 34, of 2263 West Carson street, and her 18-year-old daughter Evelyn were injured in a broadside collision between two cars at 220th and Normandie early last Friday morning. Police said Arthur C. Wampler, 38, of the same address, driver of the car in which the pair were riding, was uninjured and that seven passengers in the other machine were likewise unharmed.

Driver of the other car was listed as Rex Lovett, 18, of Wilmington and his passengers were all of that city.

Deputy Assessor Here On Thursdays

Local residents who are in need of assistance in making their tax statements or who desire information about assessments are urged to contact the deputy county assessor who is at the Chamber of Commerce every Thursday afternoon from 3 to 5 o'clock. He will be here to give this service until the later part of next month.

Hollywood Locale for Local Show

People ordinarily derive pleasure from witnessing good dramatic plays. The pleasure may be enhanced by a study of dramatic appreciation. The forthcoming production, "Meet the Duchesses," to be presented by Torrance Community Players at Civic Auditorium April 13 is designed to give even the uninitiated audience an evening of entertainment.

The comedy canters around a rural miss who believes the recommendation of her high school dramatics teacher should prove the "Open Sesame" to stardom in the movies. The scene is laid in a Hollywood theatrical boarding house. An enterprising young press agent and scenario writer conceives the plan of foisting the rural maiden as a French duchess with the result that a great movie director "persuades" her to sign a contract.

The director finally discovers the deception and withdraws, thus threatening collapse to the ambitions of the "Duchess" and her press agent lover. Just when things are the gloomiest, the day, the play and the "Duchess" are saved by a scion of wealth—another boarder, who had posed as a college professor—and the play goes on.

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Coordinators to Elect Officers

Members of the Torrance Coordinating Council elect new officers at the meeting to be held Monday night, April 10, starting at 8 o'clock. The session will convene in the city courtroom and all Coordinators are urged to be present. John E. Miller is the retiring president.

Inter-City Bus Service Data Being Compiled

Feasibility of establishing a municipally-operated bus service between Torrance, Gardena and Los Angeles was discussed at a joint meeting of Gardena and Torrance city officials and civic leaders here last Friday morning at the city hall with Mayor William H. Tolson acting as chairman.

The problem was informally discussed and it was apparent to those present that before any definite decision could be made, more facts and figures would be required. Secretary J. J. Gilmeister of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and Secretary Pat MacDonnell of the Gardena chamber were requested to gather as much data as possible and report back to the general committee at an early date.

Mayor Tolson expressed the opinion that the bus line should serve Walteria, Lomita, Torrance, Gardena and connect with the Los Angeles buses at Figueroa and Manchester avenues. Tolson stated that the proposed line would be capable of carrying 14 to 20 passengers and said he hoped that a 30-minute service could be given. Others at the meeting expressed approval of the proposal providing the system could be operated without loss after the first year.

March Building in Gain Over Previous Month

New construction here last month showed a gain over February's building and brought the total for the first quarter of 1939 up to \$289,320 as compared to \$1,998,600 for the same period in 1938. The March construction total was \$90,890 as against \$82,670 for February. In March 1938 the building figure was \$154,250.

Twelve new homes were erected last month for a total of \$16,250. Other construction during March was as follows: 15 private garages, \$2,550; 11 oil derricks, \$55,000; 15 oil tanks, \$9,405; one warehouse, \$600; building for a chinchilla farm in North Torrance, \$900; a two-family dwelling, \$3,500; alteration and repairs to four residences, \$960; alterations and improvements to three non-residential structures, \$13,885; and a derick demolition job, \$150.

Building permits issued during the past week were as follows, according to records at the city engineer's office: J. I. Friede of Los Angeles, for a frame stucco court and garages at 1870-76 215th street, \$7,400; Texas Carson, \$100; for replacing an existing 1,000-gallon gasoline tank at 2056 Carson, \$100; E. A. Peters Oil company for two 500-barrel welded oil tanks at 1908 225th, \$200; and Steven Schmidt of 728 Border for a five-room frame house and single garage at 812 Beech, \$3,000.

Woman Trick Rider Recovers From Injuries

Under Torrance Memorial hospital and medical ministrations, injuries suffered by Mrs. Bernice Davison, 36, rodeo performer, when she was thrown from her horse during a trick-riding exhibition in Los Angeles last Sunday were considerably relieved today. Mrs. Davison, who lives in Redondo Beach, is making a good improvement.

A rider since she was 15 years of age, Mrs. Davison was doing a "side stand" when she fell, receiving a fractured shoulder, cuts and bruises. Her husband, Doyle Davison, former professional rider, is employed by the county as a humane officer, having charge of this district.

POOLHALL OWNERS WARNED THEY FACE CLOSURE

Twenty-six men arrested in two El Prado pool halls on gambling charges late last Thursday afternoon by 11 deputy sheriffs and local officers yesterday had paid a total of \$340 in fines assessed by City Judge Robert Lessing. The raids on the two places, which were conducted simultaneously, were part of a series of vice roundups conducted by Capt. Walter J. Hunter, chief of Sheriff Biscaglia's vice detail, through the week-end.

P. O. Receipts Last Quarter Hold Firm

Business is not so-o-o bad—at least at the Torrance post-office. Postmaster Earl Conner, talking up his quarterly report Monday morning, remembered reports of "a slow start this year" from local business men, was ready to learn the bad news that his postal receipts showed a similar decline.

But the Conner grin widened when the figures were all in and added up. The last quarter of postal business totaled \$9,061.11 which was only \$135.66 less than the first three months of 1938.

Eshelman Area Tops Oil Activity

Altho recent completions are smaller than those of several weeks ago, the Eshelman area of the South Torrance oil field continues to be the most active all drilling spot in the state. The largest completion of the week was D. W. Elliott's Kettler No. 8, east of Walnut street near 252th. Initial production there was 500 barrels of 27.6 gravity, cutting 1.0 percent.

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The cleanups netted 48 men, hundreds of dollars in fines, a number of suspended sentences and confiscation of considerable cash from the playing tables in nine gambling joints, the others being located in nearby cities and in county territory.

Presence of the sheriff's officers here was unannounced, even to Police Chief John Stroh. Having filtered in Ed Torrence's place at 1211 El Prado, deputies suddenly ordered all of the men in the poolhall to line up against a wall.

All Make Bail
"This is a sheriff's raid," a deputy called out. "Just take it easy, men—and give your right names."

At the same moment another group of sheriff's officers lined up the customers in Fred Crawford and Thomas S. Reese's place across the street at 1212 El Prado and the men there were identified. A few minutes later, after the raiding officers had confiscated slot machines, cards, money and bookmaking data, the men were walking up El Prado to police headquarters for booking.

Within an hour all had been released on bail. Yesterday morning 14 of the 26 appeared before Judge Lessing and plead guilty to the charges placed against them. Some denied they were gambling but rather than go thru with a court or jury trial at a later date, decided to "get it over with" and joined the others in guilty pleas. Twelve who did not appear had their \$10 bail declared forfeit.

Operators Fined \$25, \$50

Ed Torrence, 38, of 2394 Sonoma, proprietor of one of the places on the vice raiders' itinerary, was charged with operating a gambling hall. He plead guilty and was fined \$100 or 60 days in jail, \$75 being suspended on condition that he is not re-arrested for two years. He paid the \$25.

Fred Crawford, 27, 21814 South Western, and his partner, Thomas S. Reese, 31, also charged with conducting illegal poker games (stud and draw), plead guilty and received the same sentence.

(Continued on Page 2-A)



NEW KIND OF DOG HOUSE... In Hollywood, where even pet dogs are individualists, Dr. H. C. Field, a veterinarian, used an oxygen tent in a desperate effort to save the life of Chinko, year-old imported Pekingese, who was critically ill with bronchial pneumonia. Chinko is shown wearing a pneumonia jacket in the tent.



ROYALTY SEES PANAMA CANAL... Scheduled to land today at San Pedro for an American tour to include visits to the San Francisco and New York expositions, are the couple seen here at Balboa, Canal Zone. They are Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Ingrid of Denmark. Their democratic use of the ship's common dining room won the couple popularity on their cruise to the United States.